REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of the previous rejections based on the Song reference.

Claims 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuo (U.S. 6,424,397). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited reference does not teach (or suggest) a second orientation control element that extends parallel to a pixel edge, and that has a width smaller than a first orientation control element that extends in a direction nonparallel to the pixel edge, as in claim 13 of the present invention, as last amended.

The Examiner asserts that Kuo's slits 718 are analogous to the first orientation control element of the present invention, and that Kuo's slit wings 718a are analogous to the second orientation control element of the present invention. Although Kuo does show that the slits 718 extend in a nonparallel direction to the pixel edge, and that the slit wings 718a extend in a parallel direction to the pixel edge, the Examiner is incorrect in asserting that Figs. 8B-8E of Kuo somehow teach (or suggest) that the width of the slit wings is smaller than the width of the slits. The drawings appear to show that these two elements have the same width, and there is no discussion in the accompanying text that describes the respective widths of these two elements in any way.

It is inappropriate for the Examiner to assert that Kuo teaches a smaller width to the slit wings 718a, when the drawings do not clearly illustrate any such relationship, and the text is silent on the matter. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that

the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation against the present invention for at least these reasons.

The Examiner's assertion that Kuo's slit wings 718a are somehow less wide than the slits 718 is even more inappropriate when considered in light of the entire Kuo reference. In col. 9 of the reference, for example, Kuo describes some significance to the width of slits and protrusions at great length. Therefore, it is clear that Kuo expressly recognizes the issue of slit width, but fails to in any way teach (or suggest) such features in regard to the elements cited by the Examiner. Figs. 8B-8E thus simply do not support the Examiner's assertion.

In the event that the Examiner may have confused the length of Kuo's slit wings 718a for its width, such a misinterpretation could still not read upon the present claims. Although Kuo does appear to show that the *length* of the slit wings 718a is shorter than the length of the slits 718, Kuo also clearly shows that the slit wing does not have a constant length where it meets the slit. The second orientation control elements of the present invention, on the other hand, are clearly recited to have a constant width. Kuo also details, earlier in the reference, exactly which dimensions are deemed to be the "width" of the respective elements, in Kuo's discussion of conventional devices. Accordingly, because there is no teaching or suggestion within the Kuo reference that the slit wings 718a are less wide than the slits 718, the rejection must be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 13-16, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if a further interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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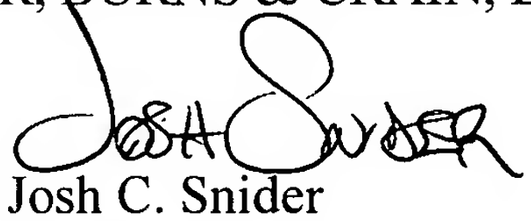
By 
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